



Thanksgiving Day will soon be here. It is a holiday that continues the tradition of the Puritans back in 1621, the year after the Puritans arrived in Massachusetts. After a rough winter, in which about half of them died, they turned for help to neighboring Indians, who taught them how to plant corn and other crops. The next fall's bountiful harvest inspired the Pilgrims to give thanks by holding a feast.

To this day, the Thanksgiving feast almost always includes some of the foods served and before the meal begins, families or friends usually pause to give thanks.

So we asked our DCS staff last month to share: *Why are You Thankful?* Below is the response.

Thank you to those who participated.

I am thankful for an amazing team of intake specialists who are passionate, energetic, and fun to work with!!!

Angie, FCMS, Hotline

I am thankful that Indiana DCS looks at me as an individual and not as an event in time. I am 51 (eeks) and decided to make a fresh start on life. Because I have lived a few decades, some of the choices I made were not all...well let's say, smart. Today I live life one day at a time and am thankful that I have been given a chance to begin a new career within the Department of Child Services. Thanks Angie and Lyndsey!

Penny Humerick
Hotline, Blackford

I am thankful for the Relative Specialist position and the ability to keep children in relative homes when appropriate. I am thankful for my work family that can understand the chaos and stress I go through and can vent to. Mostly I am thankful for a supportive family and two wonderful children of my own who make life so enjoyable.

Corie McCoy
Relative Support Specialist Region 11

I am most thankful for the supportive family I have been blessed with who made it possible for me to attend cohort training.

Trisha Howard
FCM Warrick

I am thankful that I have a supervisor who cares about the staff members in her unit.

Laura Houston
FCM, Marion County

I am most thankful that this newsletter is finally "Out the Door" :)

Kathee Saylor
IT Support - Central Office

I am thankful for all the blessings I have in my life: a job, a roof over my head, my family's good health and a home full of love.

Debra Gannaway
Grants Analyst, Putnam County

I am most thankful for my wonderful "gigantic" family. I was blessed with a large family, who all happen to live in and around Central & Southern Indiana. Without the support and love of my gigantic, close-knit family, I'm not sure who I would be today - as we have always been super supportive of each other in both good and bad times.

Jamie Morris
Paralegal, Central

I am thankful for having the opportunity to work with a strong and supportive team both locally in Switzerland County and regionally within Region 15! Thankful for their knowledge, support, humor, confidence, and positive attitudes. It not only helps me do my job more effectively, but helps us better serve our families and communities.

Nichole Lohrig
Supervisor/Director, Switzerland County

I am most thankful for my two amazing daughters Kelsey and Kerry! Their strength never ceases to amaze me.

Jeannie Keating
Special Projects Manager, Marion